

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EF077944559US

09/979518

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Patent Application Claiming Priority Of:

Priority Appl.: PCT/US00/13960
Int'l Appl.
Filing Date: 19 May 2000
Applicants: SCHANKE, Judith E.T.
Title: REVERSE TRANSCRIPTION ACTIVITY
FROM BACILLUS STEAROTHERMOPHILUS
DNA POLYMERASE IN THE PRESENCE
OF MAGNESIUM
Docket No.: 310307.90134

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In the case of the above-identified U.S.
application, Applicants respectfully request that the
following amendment be entered.

In the Claims

Please delete claims 1-38. Please add the following new claims:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

39. A method of preparing one or more cDNA
molecules from one or more RNA templates, comprising:

(a) mixing one or more RNA templates with a
purified thermostable template-dependent DNA polymerase
from the species *Bacillus stearothermophilus* comprising
reverse transcriptase activity in the presence of
magnesium ions at a concentration of at least 1 mM and in
the substantial absence of manganese ions to form a
mixture; and

(b) incubating said mixture under conditions
sufficient to synthesize one or more cDNA molecules